

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 086531-0130

In re patent application of

Mikihide NAKAMURA et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed: October 17, 2001

For: REACTOR CORE AND METHOD FOR OPERATING NUCLEAR REACTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the application:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend Claim 13 as follows:

--13. (Amended) A method for operating a nuclear reactor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein said reactor core is operated with said control rods inserted into said reactor core by 30% or greater of axial length of said control rods.--

Please add new Claim 14 as follows:

--14. (New) A method for operating a nuclear reactor, as claimed in claim 12, wherein said reactor core is operated with said control rods inserted into said reactor core by 30% or greater of axial length of said control rods.--

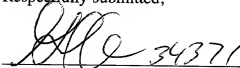
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to Claim 13 and new Claim 14 be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. A marked-up version is attached which shows the changes made to Claim 13.

Respectfully submitted,

October 17, 2001

Date

  
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**VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

13. A method for operating a nuclear reactor, as claimed in claim 11[ or 12], wherein said reactor core is operated with said control rods inserted into said reactor core by 30% or greater of axial length of said control rods.

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